

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 AF-04 EUR-08 NEA-07
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IO/DHP:CENORRIS

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O R 070116Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNICEF

SUBJECT: U.S. CANDIDATE FOR UNICEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNICEF IS EXPECTED TO FALL VACANT AT END OF 1977 WITH RETIREMENT OF HENRY R. LABOUISSSE (U.S.) SINCE INCEPTION OF UNICEF IN 1946, POST HAS BEEN HELD BY AN AMERICAN. WE HAVE INFORMED UNSYG WALDHEIM THAT U.S. CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED LABOUISSSE IS JAMES P. GRANT, PRESIDENT, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, WHO HAS SPLENDID QUALIFICATIONS AND EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLITICS THROUGH SERVICE WITH UNRRA, AID AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES AS WELL AS STATE. HIS PRINCIPAL OPPONENT IS ERNST MICHANEK OF SWEDEN WHO HAS BACKING OF FIVE NORDIC STATES. SWEDEN HAS MADE STRENUOUS DIPLOMATIC CAMPAIGN AMONG THOSE COUNTRIES CURRENTLY REPRESENTED ON UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARD, ALTHOUGH BOARD ROLE IN SELECTION IS SUPPOSED TO BE LIMITED TO BEING CONSULTED BY SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM ON HIS CHOICE. FYI: WALDHEIM HAS NOT RPT NOT YET CHOSEN HIS CANDIDATE, BUT WE ARE WARY OF MOVES SWEDEN MIGHT POSSIBLY MAKE AT UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING OF UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARD IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MANILA (MAY 17 TO JUNE 3) WHICH COULD IN SOME WAY IMPLY OR STATE BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF SWEDISH CANDIDATE (WEST GERMANS ALSO HAVE CANDIDATE BUT DO NOT APPEAR SERIOUSLY

CONTENDING FOR POSITION). WE EMPHATICALLY DO NOT WISH STAGEOPEN CONTEST WITH SWEDEN ON ISSUE AT BOARD AND HAVE STRONGLY URGED SYG TO CHOOSE GRANT AND THEN AND ONLY THEN CONSULT WITH BOARD. WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS, BUT HE MAY WELL DELAY CHOICE UNTIL LATER IN YEAR. END FYI.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM GOVERNMENT AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT OF U.S. CANDIDATE BUT WITHOUT EXPLICITLY SEEKING SUPPORT. YOU MAY POINT OUT, HOWEVER, THAT GRANT CONSIDERED BY FAR BEST QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR POSITION. HE BEGAN SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENTAL EXPERIENCE MORE THAN 30 YEARS AGO WITH UNRRA, HAS HAD EXTENSIVE FIELD EXPERIENCE AS AN AID COUNTRY DIRECTOR MANAGING PROGRAMS OF UP TO DOLLARS 200 MILLION, AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

OF ICA (PREDECESSOR AGENCY TO AID) AND IN AID AS
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR WITH PROGRAM OF DOLLARS 600
MILLION. IN THESE POSITIONS HE HAS DISPLAYED SUPERB
ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY. HE HAS MADE INTELLECTUAL
CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEVELOPMENT CONCEPTS THROUGH VARIOUS
PUBLICATIONS AS WELL AS TO INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON
DEVELOPMENT. GRANT HAS EFFECTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP
WITH US CONGRESS AND EXTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH PRIVATE,
CONGRESSIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND
LEADERS. HE HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE WITH FUND
RAISING UNDER BOTH PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT AUSPICES.
AT THE PRESENT TIME HE IS PRESIDENT OF THE OVERSEAS
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, A NON-PROFIT CENTER FOR STUDY,
RESEARCH, ANALYSIS, AND EDUCATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT
FIELD.

3. WE ARE POUCHING EXTENSIVE CURRICULUM VITAE FOR YOU
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TO HAND OVER TO GOVERNMENT BUT DO NOT RPT NOT AWAIT ITS
ARRIVAL BEFORE TAKING ACTION AS IT IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT
BE AWARE U.S. HAS FIELDDED GRANT AS CANDIDATE.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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